

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-11 remain pending. Claims 1 and 2 are amended. No claims have been canceled or added. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Translation into English of Prior Art Document Relied Upon:

Applicants note that the Examiner has relied on the underlying document of Saki Corp. KK, Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-183712, cited in the information disclosure statement filed November 3, 2004. Applicants request the Examiner to obtain a translation into English of this reference pursuant to MPEP § 706.02 II and provide it in the next Office Action. Applicants have attached a translation of this document into English generated by computer in the Japanese Patent Office as an appendix to this amendment and reply. This translation was obtained after receipt of the Office Action.

Rejection of Claims – 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Saki Corp. KK (Yoshihiro), Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-183712.

Claims 1 and 2

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite “setting component identifying information for identifying a component and information for identifying a specific substrate on which the component is mounted when processing of replacing or replenishing the component is executed in the component mounting step.” Independent claim 2 recites a similar limitation. The Office Action in Item 2 indicates that Yoshihiro discloses this limitation in [0006]. Yoshihiro discloses that the alphanumeric characters, as component

identifying information, are already inscribed on the components before assembly onto the substrate (see [0006]). However, Yoshihiro is silent about setting component identifying information for identifying a component and information for identifying a specific substrate on which the component is mounted when processing of replacing or replenishing the component is executed in the component mounting step, as claimed in independent claims 1 and 2. Thus, this limitation is absent from Yoshihiro.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. MPEP § 2131 (quoting *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). Yoshihiro does not disclose setting component identifying information for identifying a component and information for identifying a specific substrate on which the component is mounted when processing of replacing or replenishing the component is executed in the component mounting step, as claimed in independent claims 1 and 2. Thus, Yoshihiro does not anticipate these claims.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of independent claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshihiro be withdrawn. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of dependent claims 3-7 be withdrawn from their dependence on independent claim 1.

Claim 3

Dependent claim 3 recites “component identifying information is information showing a mounting position on a substrate of the component to be replaced or replenished.” The Office Action in Item 2 states that Yoshihiro teaches this limitation in [0007]-[0008]. However, this portion of Yoshihiro discloses a numerical value, “103,” designating a resistor as a component (see [0007]). But Yoshihiro does not describe “103” as information showing a mounting position on a substrate for the resistor. Therefore, Yoshihiro does not anticipate dependent claim 3.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshihiro be withdrawn.

Claim 5

Dependent claim 5 recites “the component identifying information for identifying a feeder to which the component to be replaced or replenished is supplied.” The Office Action indicates that this teaching is provided in Yoshihiro in [0006]. However, Yoshihiro discloses that the alphanumeric characters are inscribed on the components already when they are acquired. Yoshihiro is silent as to whether the alphanumeric characters indicate a source or “feeder” that supplies the components. Thus, Yoshihiro does not anticipate dependent claim 5.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshihiro be withdrawn.

Claim 6

Dependent claim 6 recites “inspection for a substrate specified as a substrate corresponding to the substrate identifying information is executed for a predetermined number of substrates.” The Office Action indicates in Item 2 that this is disclosed in Yoshihiro in [0025]. Yoshihiro describes a predetermined number of characters in the alphanumeric character string are required to match for success decision to be made in the inspection (see [0025]). However, inspection executed for a predetermined number of substrates is absent from Yoshihiro. Therefore, Yoshihiro does not anticipate dependent claim 6.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshihiro be withdrawn.

Claims 7 and 11

Dependent claims 7 and 11 recite a determination “that a predetermined number of substrates or more are correct components among the substrates specified as components to be inspected is obtained.” The Office Action in Item 2 states that this is disclosed in Yoshihiro in [0009]. But as mentioned above, Yoshihiro teaches that a judgment that the inspection is a success depends on a predetermined number of alphanumeric characters

match, but not a determination that a predetermined number of substrates are correct components, as claimed in dependent claims 7 and 11. Thus, Yoshihiro does not anticipate dependent claims 7 and 11.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent claims 7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshihiro be withdrawn.

Claims 8 and 9

Independent claims 8 and 9 recite “an entering part for entering a character string to be printed on each component on a substrate to be inspected.” The Office Action in Item 2 indicates that Yoshihiro discloses this feature in [0006]. Yoshihiro discloses that the alphanumeric characters, as component identifying information, are inscribed on the components when they are acquired (see [0006]). The feature of an entering part for entering a character string to be printed on each component is absent from the equipment disclosed in Yoshihiro (see [0006]-[0008]). Because the structural element of the entering part is missing from Yoshihiro, Yoshihiro does not anticipate independent claims 8 and 9.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of independent claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshihiro be withdrawn. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of dependent claims 10 and 11 be withdrawn from their dependence on independent claim 8.

Conclusion:

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a

check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By Justin Darrow

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5485
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

William T. Ellis
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,874

Justin T. Darrow
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 54,807